

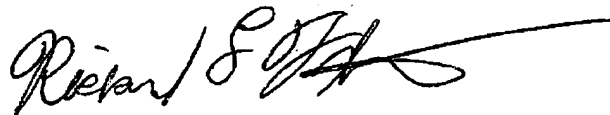
15. The words "drive shaft" set forth in the presently amended claims and the propeller shaft 130 illustrated in figure 1 of our present pending patent application as described beginning on page 7 in lines 15+ of our specification are recognized as interchangeable to those of ordinary skill in the art, and one skilled in the art would be able to recognize the identity and be enabled based upon our present disclosure.
16. The words "seal cap" set forth in the presently amended claims and the cover 220 illustrated in figure 2 of our present pending patent application as described beginning on page 9 in line 21 of our specification are recognized as interchangeable to those of ordinary skill in the art, and one skilled in the art would be able to recognize the identity and be enabled based upon our present disclosure.
17. The words "drive assembly" set forth in the presently amended claims and the sealed bearing unit 200 illustrated in figure 1 of our present pending patent application as described on page 7 in lines 19+ of our specification are recognized as interchangeable to those of ordinary skill in the art, and one skilled in the art would be able to recognize the identity and be enabled based upon our present disclosure.
18. The words "a bearing in rotational communication between the drive assembly housing and the drive shaft" set forth in the presently amended claims do not require that the bearing be in rotational communication solely with the drive assembly housing. The location and operation of bearings 260 - 264 as illustrated in the figures of our present pending patent application for a mud boat and as described beginning in line 22 of page 7 of our specification are recognized as being in rotational communication between the drive assembly housing and drive shaft to those of ordinary skill in the art, and one skilled in the art would be able to recognize the identity and be enabled based upon our present disclosure.
19. The words "a seal contained within the drive assembly housing, configured to restrict

contaminants from entering the drive assembly housing" set forth in the presently amended claims are recognized as being interchangeable with the description in the present specification of water being prevented from entering, and that in fact water is a contaminant and will be recognized and understood by those of ordinary skill in the art as not only being a contaminant, but also being the vehicle through which additional contaminants are transported. One skilled in the art would be able to recognize the identity and be enabled based upon our present disclosure.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements, and the like so made, are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001, Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize that validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Dated: March 22, 2004

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard L. Fisher", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard L. Fisher